



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for
AHCORG403 Manage organic soil
improvement**

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence that they can:

- implement principles of organic agriculture and agroecology
- implement knowledge of interrelationships between soil fertility, animals, plants, pests and diseases
- devise and implement a soil improvement plan to correct imbalances and maintain soil fertility
- sample soils and analyse soil test results for a range of indicators of soil fertility
- work with natural processes and allowable inputs to improve and maintain soil fertility
- apply enterprise work health and safety policies and guidelines
- implement enterprise environmental sustainability practices

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- availability, use and definition of organic fertilisers
- structural properties of soils
- factors contributing to soil acidity, sodicity and salinity
- factors promoting soil and plant water-holding capacity
- importance of soil biological activity
- major nutrient elements and their role in plant growth
- methods and inputs that can be used to correct imbalances and maintain soil fertility
- principles of organic agriculture
- processes and practices that impact on soil structure, biological activity, water-holding capacity and weed patterns
- processes of aggregate and colloid formation
- range of soil analyses available and principles of each

- relationship between soil structure, water holding capacity and nutrient availability
- role of organic matter, humus and micro-organisms
- role of livestock in enhancing soil fertility
- role of macro and micro-elements in soil and plants
- role of weeds
- significance of levels and balance of soil fertility indicators
- soil food chains and food webs
- soil textural types and determinants
- when and how to take soil samples to test for indicators of soil fertility
- principles, practices and inputs allowable under the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce

Assessment Conditions

Competency is to be assessed in the workplace and/or a simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting.

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>